

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 2, 3, 8, 9, and 12 as follows:

A<sup>2</sup>  
2 (Amended). An isolated nucleic acid molecule in accordance with claim 1 comprising a sequence encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:9.

3 (Amended). An isolated nucleic acid molecule in accordance with claim 1 comprising a sequence encoding a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10.

A<sup>3</sup>  
8 (Amended). An antibody in accordance with claim 7 which specifically binds to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:9.

9 (Amended). An antibody in accordance with claim 7 which specifically binds to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:10.

A<sup>4</sup>  
12 (Amended). A method for the treatment of a subject in need of treatment for hypoxia or ischemia-related disease comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of an antagonist of a polypeptide having a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, or an analogue thereof.

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 presently appear in this case. This amendment is being made prior to examination on the merits to